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DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

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DIRECTOR

TO: Criminal Justice Colleagues

FROM: Deborah J. Hollis, Acting Director
Office of Drug Control Policy

DATE: March 9, 2009

SUBJECT: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

By now we are sure you have heard plenty of news regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), and are aware that included in this was \$2 billion for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG); \$225 million for the Edward Byrne Competitive Grant Program; and, \$1 billion for the COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP), along with several other funding opportunities for criminal justice agencies. As there have been many questions regarding all of this, we would like to take this opportunity to assist you in determining how to take advantage of a few of these opportunities. As a reminder, our office administers the Byrne JAG formula funds allocated to states.

The \$2 billion for Byrne JAG has two funding streams; one for states and one direct to locals. Both of these are formula grants and the eligible amounts are pre-determined by the federal government (based on population and Part I violent crimes). Sixty percent (60%) of the funding goes to a state agency to be used for administration of the grant and to be awarded to state and local criminal justice agencies by a competitive grant process. In Michigan, this amount is \$41,198,830. The remaining 40% is specifically designated for local units of government, which is \$25,807,514 in Michigan. It is essential that every local unit of government that is eligible for direct Byrne JAG funding apply for these funds. Even if you have never received direct funding before, please check the website as the large amount of Recovery Act funding has allowed for additional eligible local grantees. These allocations can be found at the following website: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recoveryJAG/recoveryallocations.html>.

The rules and regulations for the Byrne JAG in the Recovery Act are the same as they have been every year under the regular Byrne JAG allocation, and agencies will still apply using the Michigan Automated Grant Information Connection (MAGIC). However, some things to note that will be different in Michigan are the following:

- If your jurisdiction is eligible for \$100,000 or greater direct from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), and you are also applying for funds from ODCP, you must partner with at least two other agencies in your jurisdiction that are not receiving direct funding from BJA in order for your application to be considered. These applications should

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include highly targeted efforts to reduce a specific increase in crime or criminal activity in your jurisdiction.

- There will be NO match required for any projects funded under the Byrne JAG Recovery Act funding.
- Funds will be applied for and awarded during state fiscal year 2009, and will be eligible for continuation funding through September 30, 2012.
- It is our intent to have multi-year contracts, although budgets will have to be approved annually.
- Applications will be accepted under the following program areas (more detailed descriptions on the attached page):
 - Multijurisdictional Task Forces (only currently funded task forces will be eligible to apply under this category)
 - Prescription Drug Abuse Community Awareness Programs
 - Community Policing and Community Prosecution Strategies
 - Technology Enhancement Projects
 - Local Correctional Resources
 - Problem Solving Courts
- Check the ODCP website, www.michigan.gov/odcplawenforcement for more details on the application process, including opening and closing (due) dates. We expect it will open in the very near future with a quick turnaround time for submission.

The following two grant programs are administered directly by the federal government, not through ODCP:

- The Edward Byrne Competitive Grant Program is similar to Byrne JAG and is focused on ensuring job growth and job retention. However, instead of providing grants based on a formula, BJA administers these funds based on a competitive application process. These grants help state and local communities improve the capacity of local justice systems and may be used for national efforts such as training and technical assistance. Applicants may be national, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including for-profit (commercial) and non-profit organizations, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education, tribal jurisdictions, and units of local government that support the functioning of the criminal justice system. Information will be coming soon regarding how to apply for Byrne Competitive grants.
- CHRP will address the personnel needs of state, local, and tribal law enforcement. Application materials are scheduled to be available before the end of March. CHRP is a competitive grant program that provides funding directly to law enforcement agencies having primary law enforcement authority to create and preserve jobs and to increase their community policing capacity and crime-prevention efforts. Grant funding will be available for the hiring and rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers. There is no local match requirement for CHRP, but grant funding will be based on current entry-level salaries and benefits packages. Any additional costs for higher salaries or benefits for particular individuals hired will be the responsibility of the grantee agency.

CHRP grants will provide 100% funding for approved entry-level salaries and benefits for three years (36 months) for newly-hired, full-time sworn officer positions (including filling existing unfunded vacancies) or for rehired officers who have been laid off, or are scheduled to be laid off on a future date, as a result of local budget cuts. In addition, there is no cap on the number of positions an agency may request, but awards will be limited to available funding. Please be mindful of the initial three-year grant period and your agency's ability to fill the officer positions awarded, while following your agency's established hiring policies and procedures.

At the conclusion of federal funding, grantees must retain all sworn officer positions awarded under the CHRP grant. The retained CHRP-funded position(s) should be added to the grantee's law enforcement budget with state and/or local funds, over and above the number of locally-funded positions that would have existed in the absence of the grant.

Applications for CHRP grants will be accepted only online through the COPS office web site: www.cops.usdoj.gov.

Please do not hesitate to contact Nancy Becker Bennett at (517) 373-2952 or beckern@michigan.gov with any questions regarding the above information.

DJH/nbb/rml

Attachment

Office of Drug Control Policy
Funding areas for Recovery Act Byrne JAG

1. Multijurisdictional Task Forces

Multijurisdictional task forces integrate federal, state, county and local law agencies and prosecutors for the purpose of enhancing inter-agency coordination and intelligence; to facilitate multijurisdictional investigations to remove mid and upper-level narcotic offenders and related conspiracies; and to impact and assist in solving regional and local community drug and violent crime related problems.

2. Prescription Drug Abuse Community Awareness Program

To strengthen community collaborations with law enforcement, healthcare professionals, schools and community leaders, increase awareness/knowledge to communities and change the public perception of prescription drug abuse, develop awareness and prevention strategies, mutual enforcement practices and effective interdiction strategies.

3. Community Policing & Community Prosecution Strategies

This comprehensive approach is modeled after "weed and seed" initiatives, problem-oriented policing, community policing and dictates a multi-level action plan. There are six basic elements in this plan: enforcement, problem-solving initiatives, intervention and treatment, neighborhood restoration, community prosecution, and the allocation of resources through the use of crime analysis. Using data-driven crime control strategies, projects should emphasize using a problem-solving process to develop long-term resolutions to community problems.

4. Technology Enhancement Projects

Proposed projects must demonstrate a cost and/or time savings and increased efficiency for criminal justice employees and the public service area.

5. Local Correctional Resources

The focus of this program area is to improve local correctional services by providing needed resources and treatment services for juveniles and adults with substance abuse problems.

6. Problem Solving Courts

- Drug Treatment Courts
- Mental Health Courts
- Family Dependency Courts
- Domestic Violence Courts